

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)

U.S. Application No. 09/445,963

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9 are canceled.

10. (previously presented): A method for detecting and treating a malignant tumors, which method comprises;

administering a tumor detecting effective amount, to a host in need of detection of a malignant tumor, of 5-aminolevulinic acid or a derivative thereof in which at least one carbon atom of said 5-aminolevulinic acid is a carbon isotope and/or a nitrogen atom in its amino group is a nitrogen isotope, and where said derivative is an ester, amide, salt, hydrate or solvate of said 5-aminolevulinic acid;

detecting the malignant tumor using NMR; and

administering an effective amount of said 5-aminolevulinic acid or derivative thereof, in which at least one carbon atom of said 5-aminolevulinic acid is a carbon isotope and/or a nitrogen atom in its amino group is a nitrogen isotope, and where said derivative is an ester, amide, salt, hydrate or solvate of said 5-aminolevulinic acid, to kill said malignant tumor.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 10 wherein said 5-aminolevulinic acid or derivative thereof is used in combination with a diagnostically acceptable carrier.

12. (new): A method for detecting and treating a malignant tumor, which method comprises;

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administering a tumor detecting effective amount, to a host in need of detection of a malignant tumor, of a 5-aminolevulinic acid or a derivative thereof in which at least one carbon atom of said 5-aminolevulinic acid is a carbon isotope and/or a nitrogen atom in its amino group is a nitrogen isotope, and where said derivative is an ester, amide, salt, hydrate or solvate of said 5-aminolevulinic acid to thereby accumulate the carbon isotope and/or the nitrogen isotope in the malignant tumor;

detecting the carbon and/or the nitrogen isotope using NMR to thereby identify the position of the malignant tumor; and

administering an effective amount of said 5- aminolevulinic acid or a derivative thereof, in which at least one carbon atom of said 5- aminolevulinic acid is a carbon isotope and/or a nitrogen atom in its amino group is a nitrogen isotope, and where said derivative is an ester, amide, salt, hydrate or solvate of said 5- aminolevulinic acid, to kill said malignant tumor.

13. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the malignant tumor is detected and treated in a living host.